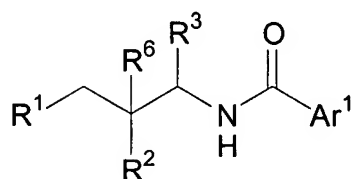


IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A compound of structural formula I:



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein;

R¹ is selected from:

- (1) C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (2) C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, and
- (3) aryl,

wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^a, and each cycloalkyl, and aryl optionally is substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R² is selected from:

- (1) C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl,
- (2) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (3) aryl,
- (4) heteroaryl,
- (5) -OR^d,
- (6) -NR^cR^d, and
- (7) -CO₂R^d,

wherein each cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted on a carbon or nitrogen atom with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R³ is C₁₋₄alkyl, wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;

R⁶ is selected from:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2) C₁₋₄alkyl,
- (3) C₂₋₄alkenyl,
- (4) C₂₋₄alkynyl,
- (5) -OR^d,
- (6) halogen,
- (7) -CN,
- (8) -NR^cR^d,

wherein alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl are optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a

Ar¹ is aryl, optionally substituted with one, or two, ~~or three~~ groups independently selected from R^b; each R^a is independently selected from:

- (1) -OR^c,
- (2) -NR^cS(O)_mR^d,
- (3) -NO₂,
- (4) halogen,
- (5) -S(O)_mR^c,
- (6) -SR^c,
- (7) -S(O)₂OR^c,
- (8) -S(O)_mNR^cR^d,
- (9) -NR^cR^d,
- (10) -O(CR^eR^f)_nNR^cR^d,
- (11) -C(O)R^c,
- (12) -CO₂R^c,
- (13) -CO₂(CR^eR^f)_nCONR^cR^d,
- (14) -OC(O)R^c,
- (15) -CN,
- (16) -C(O)NR^cR^d,
- (17) -NR^cC(O)R^d,
- (18) -OC(O)NR^cR^d,
- (19) -NR^cC(O)OR^d,
- (20) -NR^cC(O)NR^cR^d,
- (21) -CR^c(N-OR^d),
- (22) CF₃,
- (23) -OCF₃,
- (24) C₃₋₈cycloalkyl,

(25) cycloheteroalkyl, and

(26) oxo;

each R^b is independently selected from:

- (1) R^a ,
- (2) C_{1-10} alkyl,
- (3) C_{3-8} cycloalkyl,
- (4) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (5) aryl,
- (6) aryl- C_{1-4} alkyl,
- (7) heteroaryl, and
- (8) heteroaryl- C_{1-4} alkyl,

wherein alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with oxo, and wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with $-OR^c$, NR^cR^d , or $-C(O)R^c$;

R^c and R^d are independently selected from:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2) C_{1-10} alkyl,
- (3) C_{2-10} alkenyl,
- (4) C_{2-10} alkynyl,
- (5) cycloalkyl,
- (6) cycloalkyl- C_{1-10} alkyl,
- (7) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (8) cycloheteroalkyl- C_{1-10} alkyl;
- (9) aryl,
- (10) heteroaryl,
- (11) aryl- C_{1-10} alkyl, and
- (12) heteroaryl- C_{1-10} alkyl, or

R^c and R^d together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,

or two $-OR^c$ groups together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,

each R^c and R^d may be unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents selected from R^h ;

R^e and R^f are independently selected from:

- (1) hydrogen,

- (2) C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (3) C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl,
- (4) C₂₋₁₀alkynyl,
- (5) cycloalkyl,
- (6) cycloalkyl-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl,
- (7) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (8) cycloheteroalkyl-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl,
- (9) aryl,
- (10) heteroaryl,
- (11) arylC₁₋₁₀ alkyl, and
- (12) heteroarylC₁₋₁₀ alkyl, or

R^e and R^f together with the carbon to which they are attached form a ring of 5 to 7 members containing 0-2 heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen;

each R^g is independently selected from

- (1) C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (2) C₃₋₈cycloalkyl,
- (3) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (4) aryl,
- (5) arylC₁₋₄alkyl,
- (6) heteroaryl,
- (7) heteroarylC₁₋₄alkyl,
- (8) -S(O)_mR^e,
- (9) -C(O)R^e,
- (10) -CO₂R^e,
- (11) -CO₂(C(R^eR^f)_nCONR^eR^f), and
- (12) -C(O)NR^eR^f;

each R^h is independently selected from:

- (1) C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (2) C₃₋₈cycloalkyl,
- (3) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (4) aryl,
- (5) arylC₁₋₄alkyl,
- (6) heteroaryl,
- (7) heteroarylC₁₋₄alkyl,
- (8) -OR^e,
- (9) -NR^eS(O)_mR^f,

- (10) $-S(O)_mR^e$,
- (11) $-SRe$,
- (12) $-S(O)_2OR^e$,
- (13) $-S(O)_mNR^eR^f$,
- (14) $-NR^eR^f$,
- (15) $-O(CR^eR^f)_nNR^eR^f$,
- (16) $-C(O)R^e$,
- (17) $-CO_2R^e$,
- (18) $-CO_2(CR^eR^f)_nCONR^eR^f$,
- (19) $-OC(O)R^e$,
- (20) $-CN$,
- (21) $-C(O)NR^eR^f$,
- (22) $-NR^eC(O)R^f$,
- (23) $-OC(O)NR^eR^f$,
- (24) $-NR^eC(O)OR^f$,
- (25) $-NR^eC(O)NR^eR^f$,
- (26) CF_3 , and
- (27) $-OCF_3$,

m is selected from 1 and 2; and

n is selected from 1, 2, and 3;

provided that when R^1 and R^2 are unsubstituted aryl or unsubstituted heteroaryl, and R^3 is hydrogen or C 1-4 alkyl, then Ar^1 is substituted with at least one R^b substituent; and

provided that when R^1 is selected from the group consisting of unsubstituted phenyl, *para*-chlorophenyl or *para*-methoxy phenyl, R^2 is unsubstituted phenyl, and R^3 is $-CH_3$, then Ar^1 is not unsubstituted phenyl, *ortho*- CO_2H monosubstituted phenyl, or 3,4-dimethoxy phenyl.

Claim 2 (Previously presented): The compound according to Claim 1 wherein:

R^1 is selected from:

- (1) C_{1-10} alkyl,
- (2) C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, and
- (3) aryl,

wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^a , and each cycloalkyl, and aryl optionally is substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^b ;

R^2 is selected from:

- (1) C_3 -10cycloalkyl,
- (2) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (3) aryl,
- (4) heteroaryl,
- (5) $-OR^d$,
- (6) $-NR^cR^d$, and
- (7) $-CO_2R^d$,

wherein each cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl, and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^b ;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 3 (Currently amended): The compound according to Claim 2 wherein:

Ar^1 is selected from:

- (1) phenyl, and
- (2) naphthyl,

each optionally substituted with one, or two, ~~or three~~ groups independently selected from R^b ;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): The compound according to Claim 3 wherein:

R^3 is C_1 -4alkyl, optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a ;

R^6 is selected from:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2) methyl,
- (3) hydroxyl,
- (4) halogen, and
- (5) $-CN$,

wherein methyl is optionally substituted with one to three R^a substituents;

Ar^1 is selected from:

- (1) phenyl, and
- (2) naphthyl,

each optionally substituted with one, or two, ~~or three~~ groups independently selected from R^b ;
each R^a is independently selected from:

- (1) -OR^c,
- (2) halogen,
- (3) -S(O)_mR^c,
- (4) -SR^c,
- (5) -S(O)₂OR^c,
- (6) -S(O)_mNR^cR^d,
- (7) -NR^cR^d,
- (8) -C(O)R^c,
- (9) -CO₂R^c,
- (10) -CN,
- (11) -C(O)NR^cR^d,
- (12) CF₃,
- (13) -OCF₃,
- (14) C₃₋₈cycloalkyl,
- (15) cycloheteroalkyl, and
- (16) oxo;

each R^b is independently selected from:

- (1) R^a,
- (2) C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (3) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (4) aryl,
- (5) arylC₁₋₄alkyl,
- (6) heteroaryl, and
- (7) heteroarylC₁₋₄alkyl,

wherein alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, heteroaryl are optionally substituted with oxo, and

wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with -OR^c, NR^cR^d, or -C(O)R^c;

R^c and R^d are independently selected from:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2) C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (3) cycloalkyl,
- (4) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (5) aryl,
- (6) heteroaryl, or

R^c and R^d together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R_g,

or two -OR^c groups together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^g,
each R^c and R^d may be unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents selected from R^h;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 5 (Previously presented): The compound according to Claim 4 wherein:

R¹ is phenyl, optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;
and

R² is independently selected from:

- (1) phenyl, and
- (2) pyridyl,

optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R³ is C₁₋₄alkyl, wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;

R⁶ is selected from:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2) methyl,
- (3) hydroxyl,
- (4) halogen, and
- (5) -CN;

each R^a is independently selected from:

- (1) -OR^c,
- (2) halogen,
- (3) -S(O)_mR^c,
- (4) -NR^cR^d,
- (5) -C(O)R^c,
- (6) -CO₂R^c, and
- (7) oxo;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 6 (Original): The compound according to Claim 5 wherein:

R¹ and R² are independently selected from:

- (1) phenyl,
- (2) 4-fluorophenyl,
- (3) 2-chlorophenyl,
- (4) 3-chlorophenyl,

- (5) 4-chlorophenyl,
- (6) 4-cyanophenyl,
- (7) 4-methylphenyl,
- (8) 4-isopropylphenyl,
- (9) 4-biphenyl,
- (10) 4-bromophenyl,
- (11) 4-iodophenyl,
- (12) 2,4-dichlorophenyl, and
- (13) 2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 7 (Original): The compound according to Claim 6 wherein:
R¹ and R² are independently selected from phenyl and 4-chlorophenyl;
R³ is methyl, wherein methyl is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^a;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

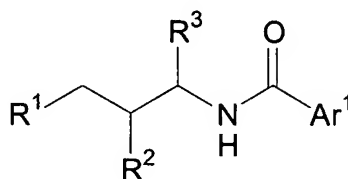
Claim 8 (Currently amended): A compound selected from:

- (1) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-3-chloro-2-naphthamide;
- (2) 2-(1-tetrazolyl)-*N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (3) 3-(1-tetrazolyl)-*N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (4) 4-(1-tetrazolyl)-*N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (5) 2-phenyl-*N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (6) 3-(1-(3,5-dimethyl-pyrazolyl))-*N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (7) 4-(1-(pyrrolidin-2-one))-*N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (8) 3-(1-(imidazolidin-2-one))-*N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (9) 4-phenyl-*N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (10) 3-phenyl-*N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (11) 4-(1-pyrazolyl)-*N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (12) 2-(1-pyrazolyl)-*N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (13) 4-(1-piperidiny)-*N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (14) 4-(2-formyl-phenyl)-*N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (15) 4-(2-hydroxymethyl-phenyl)-*N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (16) 4-(2-aminophenyl)-*N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

- (17) 5-chloro-2-(2-(1-pyrrolyl)ethyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (18) 2-(2-phenylethyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (19) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-naphthylene-2-carboxamide;
- (20) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-naphthylene-1-carboxamide;
- (21) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (22) 2-chloro-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
- (23) 3-chloro-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide; and
- (24) 4-chloro-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): A compound of structural formula IA:



(IA)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein;

R¹ is aryl, optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R² is selected from:

- (1) aryl, and
- (2) heteroaryl,

wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted on the carbon or nitrogen with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R³ is C₁₋₄alkyl,

wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;

Ar¹ is aryl, optionally substituted on the carbon or nitrogen with one, or two, or three groups independently selected from R^b;

each R^a is independently selected from:

- (1) -OR^c,
- (2) -NR^cS(O)_mR^d,
- (3) -NO₂,

- (4) halogen,
- (5) $-S(O)_mR^c$,
- (6) $-SR^c$,
- (7) $-S(O)_2OR^c$,
- (8) $-S(O)_mNR^cR^d$,
- (9) $-NR^cR^d$,
- (10) $-O(CR^eR^f)_nNR^cR^d$,
- (11) $-C(O)R^c$,
- (12) $-CO_2R^c$,
- (13) $-CO_2(CR^eR^f)_nCONR^cR^d$,
- (14) $-OC(O)R^c$,
- (15) $-CN$,
- (16) $-C(O)NR^cR^d$,
- (17) $-NR^cC(O)R^d$,
- (18) $-OC(O)NR^cR^d$,
- (19) $-NR^cC(O)OR^d$,
- (20) $-NR^cC(O)NR^cR^d$,
- (21) $-CR^c(N-OR^d)$,
- (22) CF_3 ,
- (23) $-OCF_3$,
- (24) $C_{3-8}cycloalkyl$,
- (25) $cycloheteroalkyl$, and
- (26) oxo ;

each R^b is independently selected from:

- (1) R^a ,
- (2) $C_{1-10}alkyl$,
- (3) $C_{3-8}cycloalkyl$,
- (4) $cycloheteroalkyl$,
- (5) $aryl$,
- (6) $arylC_{1-4}alkyl$,
- (7) $heteroaryl$, and
- (8) $heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl$,

wherein $alkyl$, $cycloalkyl$, $cycloheteroalkyl$, and $heteroaryl$ are optionally substituted with oxo , and wherein $aryl$ and $heteroaryl$ are optionally substituted with $-OR^c$, NR^cR^d , or $-C(O)R^c$;

R^c and R^d are independently selected from:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2) C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (3) C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl,
- (4) C₂₋₁₀alkynyl,
- (5) cycloalkyl,
- (6) cycloalkyl-C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (7) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (8) cycloheteroalkyl-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl;
- (9) aryl,
- (10) heteroaryl,
- (11) aryl-C₁₋₁₀alkyl, and
- (12) heteroaryl-C₁₋₁₀alkyl, or

R^c and R^d together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^g,

or two -OR^c groups together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^g,

each R^c and R^d may be unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents selected from R^h;

R^e and R^f are independently selected from:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2) C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (3) C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl,
- (4) C₂₋₁₀alkynyl,
- (5) cycloalkyl,
- (6) cycloalkyl-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl,
- (7) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (8) cycloheteroalkyl-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl,
- (9) aryl,
- (10) heteroaryl,
- (11) arylC₁₋₁₀ alkyl, and
- (12) heteroarylC₁₋₁₀ alkyl, or

R^e and R^f together with the carbon to which they are attached form a ring of 5 to 7 members containing 0-2 heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen;

each R^g is independently selected from

- (1) C₁₋₁₀alkyl,

- (2) C₃₋₈cycloalkyl,
- (3) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (4) aryl,
- (5) arylC₁₋₄alkyl,
- (6) heteroaryl,
- (7) heteroarylC₁₋₄alkyl,
- (8) -S(O)_mRe,
- (9) -C(O)Re,
- (10) -CO₂Re,
- (11) -CO₂(CReR^f)_nCONReR^f, and
- (12) -C(O)NReR^f;

each R^h is independently selected from:

- (1) C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (2) C₃₋₈cycloalkyl,
- (3) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (4) aryl,
- (5) arylC₁₋₄alkyl,
- (6) heteroaryl,
- (7) heteroarylC₁₋₄alkyl,
- (8) -OR^e,
- (9) -NReS(O)_mR^f,
- (10) -S(O)_mRe,
- (11) -SRe,
- (12) -S(O)₂OR^e,
- (13) -S(O)_mNReR^f,
- (14) -NReR^f,
- (15) -O(CReR^f)_nNReR^f,
- (16) -C(O)Re,
- (17) -CO₂Re,
- (18) -CO₂(CReR^f)_nCONReR^f,
- (19) -OC(O)Re,
- (20) -CN,
- (21) -C(O)NReR^f,
- (22) -NReC(O)R^f,
- (23) -OC(O)NReR^f,
- (24) -NReC(O)OR^f,

(25) $-\text{NR}^e\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}^e\text{R}^f$,

(26) CF_3 , and

(27) $-\text{OCF}_3$,

m is selected from 1 and 2; and

n is selected from 1, 2, and 3;

provided that when R^1 and R^2 are unsubstituted aryl or unsubstituted heteroaryl, and R^3 is C_{1-4} alkyl, Ar^1 is substituted with at least one R^b substituent; and

provided that when R^1 is selected from the group consisting of unsubstituted phenyl, *para*-chlorophenyl or *para*-methoxy phenyl, R^2 is unsubstituted phenyl, and R^3 is $-\text{CH}_3$, Ar^1 is not unsubstituted phenyl, *ortho*- CO_2H monosubstituted phenyl, or 3,4-dimethoxy phenyl.

Claim 10 (Previously presented): The compound according to Claim 9 wherein:

R^1 is selected from phenyl and naphthyl, optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b ;

and R^2 is selected from:

- (1) phenyl,
- (2) naphthyl, and
- (3) pyridyl,

optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b ;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): The compound according to Claim 10 wherein:

Ar^1 is selected from:

- (1) phenyl, and
- (2) naphthyl,

each optionally substituted with one, or two, ~~or three~~ groups independently selected from R^b ;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): The compound of claim 11 wherein:

R^3 is C_{1-4} alkyl,

wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a ;

Ar^1 is selected from:

- (1) phenyl, and

(2) naphthyl,

each optionally substituted with one, or two, ~~or three~~ groups independently selected from R^b;

each R^a is independently selected from:

- (1) -OR^c,
- (2) halogen,
- (3) -S(O)_mR^c,
- (4) -SR^c,
- (5) -S(O)₂OR^c,
- (6) -S(O)_mNR^cR^d,
- (7) -NR^cR^d,
- (8) -C(O)R^c,
- (9) -CO₂R^c,
- (10) -CN,
- (11) -C(O)NR^cR^d,
- (12) CF₃,
- (13) -OCF₃,
- (14) C₃₋₈cycloalkyl,
- (15) cycloheteroalkyl, and
- (16) oxo;

each R^b is independently selected from:

- (1) R^a,
- (2) C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (3) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (4) aryl,
- (5) arylC₁₋₄alkyl,
- (6) heteroaryl, and
- (7) heteroarylC₁₋₄alkyl,

wherein alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, heteroaryl are optionally substituted with oxo, and

wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with -OR^c, NR^cR^d, or -C(O)R^c;

R^c and R^d are independently selected from:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2) C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (3) cycloalkyl,
- (4) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (5) aryl,
- (6) heteroaryl, or

R^c and R^d together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R_g,
or two -OR^c groups together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R_g,
each R^c and R^d may be unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents selected from R^h; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 13 (Previously presented): The compound according to Claim 12, wherein:
R¹ is phenyl optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b; and
R² is selected from:

- (1) phenyl, and
- (2) pyridyl,

optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;
R³ is C₁₋₄alkyl, wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;

each R^a is independently selected from:

- (1) -OR^c,
- (2) halogen,
- (3) -S(O)_mR^c,
- (4) -NR^cR^d,
- (5) -C(O)R^c,
- (6) -CO₂R^c, and
- (7) oxo;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 14 (Original): The compound according to Claim 13, wherein:
R¹ and R² are independently selected from:

- (1) phenyl,
- (2) 4-fluorophenyl,
- (3) 2-chlorophenyl,
- (4) 3-chlorophenyl,
- (5) 4-chlorophenyl,
- (6) 4-cyanophenyl,
- (7) 4-methylphenyl,
- (8) 4-isopropylphenyl,

- (9) 4-biphenyl,
- (10) 4-bromophenyl,
- (11) 4-iodophenyl,
- (12) 2,4-dichlorophenyl, and
- (13) 2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 15 (Original): The compound according to Claim 14 wherein:
R¹ and R² are independently selected from phenyl and 4-chlorophenyl;
R³ is methyl, wherein methyl is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^a;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 16 (Original): A composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 17 (Original): A composition comprising a compound according to Claim 8 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 18 (Canceled)

Claim 19 (Canceled)

Claim 20 (Previously presented): A method of treating an eating disorder associated with excessive food intake selected from obesity, bulimia nervosa and compulsive eating disorders comprising administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 to a patient in need of such treatment.

Claims 21-23 (Canceled).

Claim 24 (Previously presented): The method according to Claim 20 wherein the eating disorder associated with excessive food intake is obesity.

Claims 25-30 (Canceled).

Claim 31 (Previously presented): A method of treating an eating disorder associated with excessive food intake selected from obesity, bulimia nervosa and compulsive eating disorders comprising administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 8 to a patient in need of such treatment.

Claim 32 (Previously presented): The method according to Claim 31 wherein the eating disorder associated with excessive food intake is obesity.